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Governor



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Governor Baker Announces 11:00 AM Delayed Start Time for Non-Emergency State Employees

BOSTON – This evening, Governor Charlie Baker announced an 11:00 AM delayed start time for all non-emergency state executive branch employees tomorrow morning to allow crews to keep removing snow and treating road affected by the ongoing winter storm. Governor Baker continued to urge motorists to avoid driving this evening and to exercise caution while traveling tomorrow due to snow and high winds. Residents were also instructed to use public transportation if possible.

"We are implementing an 11:00 AM delayed start time for all non-emergency state executive branch employees to allow crews additional time to treat and clear roadways for tomorrow's commute as this winter storm continues," **said Governor Charlie Baker.** "Please avoid driving this evening and use public transportation if possible tomorrow as blowing snow will make driving difficult during the morning commute. We ask everyone to continue to check on those in need and assist in keeping sidewalks, storm drains and fire hydrants clear in your neighborhoods. We will continue to work with public safety officials to monitor the forecast and the potential for damage from high winds and flooding in some areas and further update the public as needed."

The Baker-Polito Administration remains in close contact with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), National Weather Service, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and State Police (MSP) to monitor the forecast and will work to alert the public with important updates or notifications.

State Office Delays: All non-emergency, executive branch state employees will operate on an 11:00 AM delayed start time on Monday, February 13th, 2017.

Highway Travel: MassDOT has over 3,100 pieces of equipment and 700 employees treating and plowing roadways. Per MSP, the speed limit on I-90 has been reduced to 40 mph from the New York border to Boston with no tandems or propane. Motorists should plan ahead for their commutes, use public transit when possible and avoid distractions on the road. If you must drive, please exercise caution, "Don't crowd the plow," and stay behind snow removal equipment on the roadways.

MBTA: The MBTA, including the commuter rail, is planning to operate on a normal weekday schedule tomorrow. Commuters are encouraged to be patient, allow plenty of time for travel and plan ahead by checking MBTA.com/winter or @MBTA on Twitter for real-time updates.

Public Safety: Please clear home and auto exhaust vents to prevent carbon monoxide exposure and avoid downed utility wires. Also, please assist in keeping sidewalks, and fire hydrants and storm drains in your neighborhood clear. If you should lose power during the storm, please visit www.mass.gov/dfs for safety tips from the Department of Fire Services on home generators, carbon monoxide and candle safety tips.

The State Emergency Operations Center at MEMA Headquarters in Framingham is closely monitoring the storm and forecast to provide situational awareness.

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